ECFS - Email Filing
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<DATE>02/08/2005
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I am a CANCER survivor and disabled and I live on a very fixed income. I have the prepaid phone because I cannot afford a regular plan but feel safer knowing I have the phone for emergency purposes, especially in the winter when my health is most in jeopardy.

I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable. I can't afford to pay more for my telephone service. I urge you to please reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls.

In other words, low-volume (& low income) and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is disturbing and very unfair!

I use my wireless phone for safety, security and convenience. I obviously don't want to lose those benefits. Especially if it allows big businesses to pay less than their fair share. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee. I ask this for the, perhaps, hundreds of thousands of us out here for which the prepaid service is quite literally a life line.

Thank you so much for your time, and please keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

Carrie Henke Private Wausau, Wisconsin 54401-2436